

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 INR-07 L-02

ACDA-05 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 OIC-02 IO-10 SS-15 NSC-05 /073 W

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P R 131305Z MAY 75

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1771

SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 2648

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL, NATO, DPC

SUBJECT: DPC MINISTERIAL MEETING MAY 1975: UK MOD MASON REQUEST FOR
BI-LATERAL MEETING WITH SECRETARY SCHLESINGER

REF: A. USNATO 2599 B. LONDON 07030 C. STATE 109128

1. ON MAY 12, UK PERMREP PECK CALLED ON AMBASSADOR BRUCE TO DISCUSS THE RESULTS OF THE MAY 7 EUROGROUP MINISTERIAL MEETING IN LONDON. PECK PROVIDED BRUCE WITH A COPY OF UK MOD MASON'S MAY 9 LETTER TO SECRETARY SCHLESINGER ON EQUIPMENT COOPERATION AND STANDARDIZATION IN THE ALLIANCE (REF B). PECK CHARACTERIZED THE EUROGROUP MINISTERS' INITIATIVE, AS REFLECTED IN THE LETTER, AS THE MOST IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENT AT THE MAY 7 MEETING.

2. PECK THEN SKETCHED MASON'S VIEW AS TO THE MOST DESIRABLE SCENARIO FOR DPC MINISTERIAL DISCUSSION OF THE ISSUES RAISED IN THE LETTER. MASON WOULD LIKE A BI-LATERAL MEETING WITH SECRETARY SCHLESINGER PRIOR TO THE OPENING SESSION; PECK SUGGESTED PERHAPS IDEALLY AT 0900 ON THURSDAY, MAY 22, ONE HOUR BEFORE THE DPC MINISTERIAL BEGINS, CONFIDENTIAL

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EITHER AT THE UK OR US DELEGATION OFFICES AT NATO HEADQUARTERS.

MISSION COMMENT: THIS COULD CONFLICT WITH POSSIBLE SECDEF-SYG

MEETING (REF C). END COMMENT. NEXT, AS CHAIRMAN OF THE

EUROGROUP, MASON WOULD MAKE A REFERENCE TO THE EUROGROUP INITIA-

TIVE IN HIS STATEMENT TO DPC MINISTERS (AGENDA ITEM II). HOWEVER, THE UK ENVISAGES THAT FULL DISCUSSION OF THE MATTER WOULD TAKE PLACE IN RESTRICTED SESSION (AGENDA ITEM IV). PECK EMPHASIZED THAT EVEN IF A SECRETARY SCHLESINGER-MASON BI-LATERAL COULD NOT BE ARRANGED PRIOR TO THE FIRST DAY'S MEETING, MASON WOULD STILL WANT A MEETING WITH SECRETARY SCHLESINGER--PERHAPS LATE IN THE AFTERNOON OF THE 22ND OR EARLY THE NEXT DAY. ACTION REQUESTED: GUIDANCE AS TO PREFERRED TIME AND PLACE FOR SCHLESINGER-MASON BI-LATERAL MEETING.

3. PECK SAID THAT THE EUROGROUP DID NOT INTEND TO COME FORWARD WITH ANY DETAILED PROPOSALS AT THE MAY DPC MINISTERIAL--THE EUROGROUP WANTED FIRST TO HAVE SECRETARY SCHLESINGER'S GENERAL REACTION TO THE IDEAS IN MASON'S MAY 9 LETTER. IF HIS REACTION IS FAVORABLE, THE EUROGROUP WILL DO SOME MORE HOMEWORK AND COME FORWARD WITH SOME POSSIBLE PROPOSALS AT A SUBSEQUENT MEETING OF SOME SORT, PERHAPS A MEETING OF THE CNAD.

4. PECK SAID HE PROBABLY WOULD RECEIVE AUTHORIZATION TO GIVE A COPY OF THE MAY 9 LETTER TO SYG LUNS AND TO CANADIAN PERMREP MENZIES. THE FRENCH WOULD NOT RECEIVE A COPY.

5. MISSION WILL PROVIDE DETAILS OF OTHER TOPICS DISCUSSED BY PECK AT MAY 12 MEETING BY SEPTTEL. BRUCE

CONFIDENTIAL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 18 AUG 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975NATO02648
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: NATO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750599/abbrzjyd.tel
Line Count: 80
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: n/a
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A. USNATO 2599 B. LONDON 07030 C. STATE 109128
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 APR 2003 by Izenbel0>; APPROVED <16 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DPC MINISTERIAL MEETING MAY 1975: UK MOD MASON REQUEST FOR BI-LATERAL MEETING WITH SECRETARY
SCHLESINGER
TAGS: MPOL, NATO, DPC
To: STATE
SECDEF INFO BRUSSELS
LONDON
PARIS
OTTAWA

Type: TE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006